bills are restored on payment of dues, normally on the same day or latest by next day unless the telephone connection has remained disconnected due to non-payment of telephone bill for more than six months. Such cases take some time for restoration, requiring approval of the competent authority.

Arm Supply in Delhi

1568. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned For capital's big guns, arms are for peanuts... appearing in the Indian Express dated 22nd September, 1994;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following persons mentioned in the news item have been allotted fire arms by the Government for amounts mentioned against their names:

	Name	Amount
1	Shri R.L. Chugh	1100/-
2	Sh. Jaidev Sarangi	1000/-
3	Sh. Raja Vijay Karan	1000/-
4	Ms. Pratibha Karan	1000/- ..
5	Sh. K.J. Alphonse	3600/-
6	Sh. M.B. Kaushal	2750/-

The following persons have also been allotted fire arms but have not yet collected the same:

S/Shri
1. Ram Lai Rahi
2. R.K. Takkar
3. K.N. Daruwala
4. M.S.A. Siddiqui

In the case of Shri Siddiqui a request for cancellation of allotment has also been received.

Following guidelines issued by the Government in September, 1993 authorising Slate Governments/Union Territories to dispose of confiscated/forfeited fire arms and ammunition, the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi constituted a Price Fixation Committee in June, 1994 consisting of ADM (Judicial) as Chairman, Deputy Secretary (Home), Deputy Secretary (Finance) of the Government of Delhi, and three arms dealers, as membecs. Since the formation of the Committee the prices fixed for the fire arms allotted to different persons have been substantially higher.

Foreign Investment in Road and Ship Building

1569. MISS SAROJ KHAPRADE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some foreign firms have shown keen interest in the investment in road and ship building industry in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to allow these foreign firms to invest in these areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) Foreign firms from countries like U.K., USA, Malaysia and Canada have shown interest in participating in the development of road sector. M/s Kavaerner of U.K. has shown interest tor entering into Joint venture with Hindustan Shipyard Ltd., Visakhapatnam.

(c) and (d) The proposals for foreign investment are at a preliminary stage and it is being examined at appropriate level.

Target for LPG Connections in Punjab

1570. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed the target to provide new LPG connections in the country particularly in the State of Punjab upto the end of the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what effective measures have been taken by Government in this regard;